MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL™

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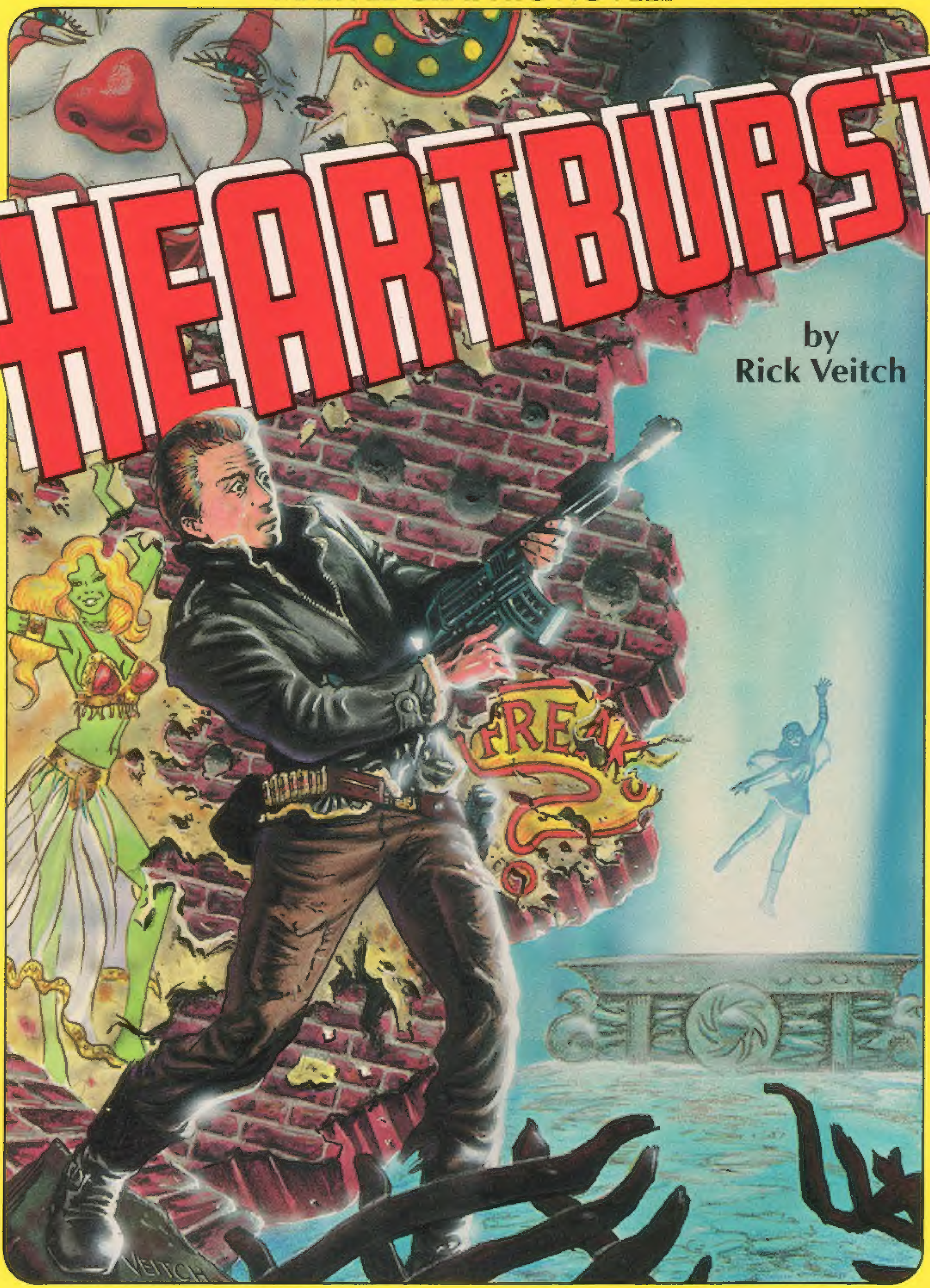
HEARTBURST™

by
Rick Veitch



A MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL

HEARTBURST™

by
Rick Veitch

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THE DREAM!

WITHIN IT I AM LOST. HELPLESSLY, HOPELESSLY ADRIFT IN A MAZE OF UNDERGROUND TUNNELS... THERE IS NO LIGHT, NO WARMTH.

ONLY A VOICE...

THE WELL, SUNOCO... COME TO THE WELL...

IT IS A WOMAN'S VOICE... SEDUCTIVE YET FIRM...

N-NO! I CAN'T... I'M AFRAID.

COME CLOSER, SUNOCO... YOU MUST LOOK IN...

I CAN FEEL THE IMMENSE DEPTHS OF THE WELL-- ITS GREAT SUCKING PROFUNDITY...

EVERY ATOM OF MY BEING VIBRATES IN TERROR AS I PEER OVER THE EDGE...

THE WELL IS CALLING, SUNOCO FIRESTONE.

COME.

COME.

COME TO ME.

NOOOO!

HEARTBEAT

WAKE UP, SUNOCO!

NOOOO! NOOOO! ;HUH?;

OHH... I'M SORRY, UNCLE XEROX... I MUST HAVE DOZED OFF!

I WAS HAVING THE STRANGEST DREAM!

WHEN YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN STUDYING YOUR BROADCASTS!

SUNOCO, YOU KNOW IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR AN ACOLYTE TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THE SPONSOR'S WORD IF HE IS TO FULFILL HIS FUNCTION.

BUT I'VE GOTTEN NOT A BIT OF COOPERATION FROM YOU SINCE TAKING YOU ON... IF IT WASN'T FOR MY DEAR BROTHER'S LAST WISHES...

I'LL TRY NOT TO LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN, UNCLE... I PROMISE!

WE'RE APPROACHING THE ENDS, INQUISITOR FIRESTONE...

I'M BEGINNING THE LANDING CYCLE.

ENOUGH OF YOUR WHIMPERING... GET INTO YOUR VESTMENTS. SECURE THE RECEIVER ONTO THE CART...

IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION WITH THE GENE POLICE. THEY ARE A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES OUT HERE ON THE FRONTIER...

GOOD DAY, CAPTAIN PEPSI...

THEY TOLD ME BACK AT THE HALL OF JUSTICE THAT YOU HAD A REAL SPACE CASE FOR US...

YUP. SHE'S A WILD ONE, INQUISITOR FIRESTONE!

SHE CALLS HERSELF RIMBAUD...

WE PICKED HER UP WHEN WE HIT THAT NEST OF PLOO RENEGADES ON THE NORTH PLATEAU...

THERE WERE FOUR MALES IN THE GROUP THAT HADN'T BEEN DESEXED!

UK!

WE ARE TRYING TO DO THE WORK OF THE SPONSOR HERE, SUNOCO... NOT SOME COMEDY ROUTINE!

UH... SORRY, SIR.

PLEASE EXCUSE MY ACOLYTE, CAPTAIN... I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF WHAT HE NEEDS ISN'T A STINT IN THE GENE POLICE-- MAYBE YOUR MEN COULD TOUGHEN HIM UP...?

HE'S AN ABSOLUTE IDIOT!

I COULD USE THE RECRUITS, INQUISITOR... WE TOOK SIX CASUALTIES BURNING OUT THOSE STINKERS! I TELL YA' THEY WERE ARMED TO THE TEETH!

THIS RIMBAUD FOUGHT WITH 'EM! SAID SHE WAS TRYIN' TO PROTECT SOME OLD RUINS...

SCREAMED BLOODY MURDER WHEN WE BLEW UP THE JOINT. IMAGINE THAT...?

AND WITH THOSE PLOO STUDS WHO KNOWS WHAT KIND OF FILTH WAS GOIN' ON UP THERE...?

SHE'S NOT PREGNANT, THANK THE SPONSOR-- BUT WE CAN'T LOCATE ANY IDENTI-FILE ON HER...

SHE'S GOT A CRAAZY STORY...

WE'LL SOON GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT!

LET ME OUT OF HERE! THIS IS A TRAVESTY! =GLUB!=

=KOF KOF= CAN'T YOU SEE I'M HERE TO SAVE YOU!

YOU WILL NOT SAVE US BY CONTAMINATING OUR GENE POOL, MISS RIMBAUD...

I HAVE SEEN THE TWISTED FRUIT OF INTERSPECIES RELATIONS. THE MONSTROUS MUTATIONS...

=SPUT!= THE PLOO CAN'T HELP IT IF THEY'RE SEXUALLY COMPATIBLE WITH HUMANS! THIS WAS THEIR PLANET FIRST! =CHOKE= YOU ARE COMMITTING GENOCIDE!

WE ARE PROTECTING OUR HUMANITY. WHO ARE YOU TO QUESTION DIVINE EDICTS?

I'M FROM EARTH.

MADAM-- IT TOOK MY ANCESTORS *FIVE* GENERATIONS TO VOYAGE FROM EARTH TO EPSILON BOOTIS...

HOW AM I TO SUPPOSE THAT *YOU* ARRIVED HERE? WHERE IS YOUR *SHIP?*

:SPUTTER: I *DIDN'T USE ONE!* WE'VE GOT A *NEW* PROCESS! ONLY A *FEW* HAVE MASTERED IT...

THEY SENT ME TO REESTABLISH COMMUNICATION! I DIDN'T *WANT* THE DAMN JOB...

PSHAW! WE ARE IN *CONSTANT* COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOME WORLD THROUGH THE *SACRED WORD* OF THE *SPONSOR!*

IT TAKES *HUNDREDS* OF YEARS FOR OUR SIGNALS TO REACH HERE...

THEY TOLD ME YOU'VE BEEN *OUT* OF COMMUNICATION SINCE YOUR SHIP ENTERED LIGHT SPEED..

DO YOU *DENY* THE EXISTENCE OF THE *HOLY BROADCASTS?*

WE HAVE *TRACKED* THEM! THERE IS NO DOUBT THEY COME *DIRECTLY* FROM *EARTH!*

THE *SPONSOR,* IN ALL HIS GLORIOUS MANIFESTATIONS IS *BEAMING* THEM AT US!

AS EACH NEW MESSAGE ARRIVES WE *STUDY* THEM TO DETERMINE THEIR *SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE!*

THEY GIVE US *DIVINE GUIDANCE* IN OUR GREAT *CRUSADE!*

THOSE AREN'T DIVINE COMMUNICATIONS!

YOU'RE MONITORING OLD *TELEVISION SHOWS* FROM *THREE* CENTURIES AGO! THEY HAVE *NOTHING* TO DO WITH REALITY... THEY NEVER *DID!*

AND *YOU* ARE QUITE OBVIOUSLY *INSANE.*

BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU ANY LESS *GUILTY* OF COPULATING WITH A NATIVE, AND FOR THAT YOU MUST PAY YOUR DEBT TO SOCIETY! I SENTENCE YOU TO *LIFE IN PRISON* WITH EMPHASIS ON *SPIRITUAL REALIGNMENT!*

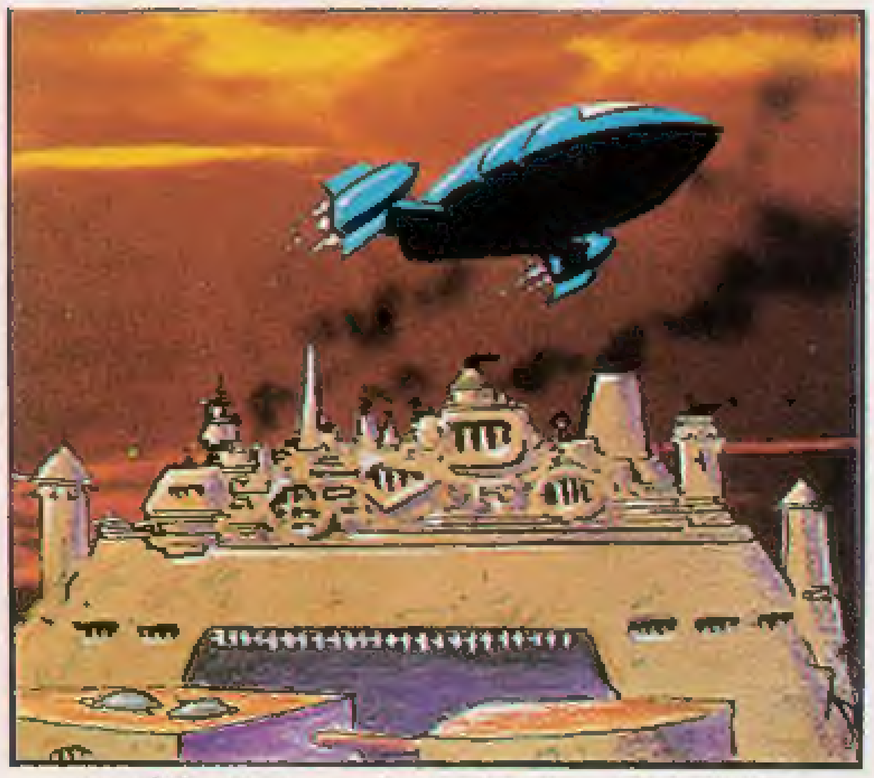
WILL YOU *LISTEN* TO ME?! I'M *REALLY* FROM EARTH!

CONSIDER YOURSELF *LUCKY* THAT I DON'T BELIEVE YOUR STORY...

INDEED, IF I *DID* YOU WOULD NEVER LEAVE THAT TANK *ALIVE!*

COME, SUNOCO.

AS WE LEFT THE OLD PRISON BEHIND, I COULDN'T GET RIMBAUD'S FACE OUT OF MY THOUGHTS. THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT IT... SOMETHING JUST *BEYOND* MY GRASP...



THE PROBLEM RUMBLED AROUND IN THE HOLLOW OF MY MIND ON THE LONG FLIGHT BACK TO THE CITY...

IT WASN'T UNTIL THAT NIGHT, AS I WAS PROWLING AROUND WITH MY FRIEND, *IPANA SCHLITZ*, THAT I MADE THE CONNECTION...

I TELL YOU, *IPANA*-- I'M *SURE* OF IT! THAT PRISONER HAD THE *SAME FACE* AS THE WOMAN IN MY DREAM!

DREAM, SHMEAM! YOU SHOULD STUDY THE *SACRED* BROADCASTS! THEY STOP *ALL* DREAMING!

PLOOTOWN IS NO PLACE FOR *HUMANS* AFTER DARK, SUNOCO...

WHY DO YOU WANT TO COME *HERE*?

I HEARD THERE'S A *CIRCUS* DOWN HERE! THERE IT IS! LET'S CHECK IT OUT!

IT WAS ONE OF THOSE CHEESY LITTLE SHOWS THAT TRAVEL THE FRONTIER CIRCUIT, PLAYING TO ANY AUDIENCE IT COULD GET...

I DON'T REALLY KNOW *WHY* I DRAGGED IPANA TO IT...

COME *ON*, MAN! LET'S GET *OUT* OF HERE. IF ANY OF OUR FRIENDS SEE US WE'LL NEVER HEAR THE *END* OF IT!

YEAH-- THIS PLACE IS A *DUMP*. LET'S GO...

LADEES AND *GENTLEMEN*-- MAY I DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE *CENTER RING* AND THE *MYSTERIOUS MAIA*-- *HIGH PRIESTESS* OF THE *PLOO TRIBES*, *UNDULATING* HER *MAGNIFICENT MATING DANCE!*

COME ON, WILL YA'?

WAIT A MINUTE.

SHE SLIPPED GRACEFULLY INTO THE LIGHT AND BEGAN HER DANCE...

INSTANTLY MY ATTENTION RIVETED UPON HER AND GREEDILY DRANK IN HER EVERY MOVEMENT...

THEN IT HAPPENED...

ACROSS A FETID CIRCUS TENT FILLED WITH A SWEATY MIXTURE OF HUMAN, PLOO AND ALL VARIETY OF ANIMALS...

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH *YOU*?

I WAS *SMELLING* HER!

MY NOSTRILS WERE ON FIRE WITH A WILD APHRODISIAC THAT SERVED TO MAGNIFY AND FOCUS ALL MY *OTHER* SENSES UPON HER.

CALM DOWN, SUNOCO--SHE'S *ONLY* A PLOO TRAMP!

BOOO! BOOO!

GET A *HUMAN* WOMAN UP THERE!

LEMME GO!

SOMETHING HOT AND WET BURST IN MY CHEST!

A TORRENT OF PURE FEELING CAME SLUICING THROUGH THE GATES OF MY HEART...

WHAT IN SPONSOR'S NAME HAS COME *OVER* YOU?

HEY! WHERE Y'GOING?

I WAS BURNING WITH A FEVERISH OBSESSION TO HAVE HER AT ANY COST...

MYSTERIOUS **MAIA** HIGH PRIESTESS OF THE PLOO TRIBES

MAIA! WAIT! PLEASE.

WHO?

OF COURSE I ONLY SUCCEEDED IN MAKING HER THINK I WAS JUST ANOTHER CREEP.

M-MY NAME IS SUNOCO FIRESTONE. I JUST WANT TO TELL YOU I THINK YOU'RE *MAGNIFICENT!*

YOU KNOW... I JUST *HAD* TO COME BACK HERE TO SEE YOU--

I-I'D GIVE ANYTHING JUST TO... TO...

I'D GONE STRICTLY OFF THE DEEP END... BUT STRANGELY, MAIA DID NOT ACT *AFRAID.*

WHAT YOU SPEAK OF IS A *CRIME* BY *YOUR* LAWS, HUMAN...

LEAVE ME IN PEACE BEFORE WE *BOTH* END UP IN THE HANDS OF THE *INQUISITOR.*

NO! DON'T WORRY! I CAN FIX THAT.

REALLY.

IN FACT SOMEHOW SHE SEEMED TO *UNDERSTAND...*

THEN THE SPELL WAS BROKEN!

SUNOCO!

IS THAT GUY BOTHERIN' YOU, MISS MAIA?

Y-YES, FARFLE-- I THINK HE HAS MISTAKEN ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE.

WILL YOU COME TO YOUR SENSES? A SQUAD OF GENE POLICE IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER...

BY THE JEEZIZ, MISTER MAN! YOU'LL TAKE YOUR BUDDY'S ADVICE IF YA' KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MISS MAIA...HE WON'T BE BOTHERIN' YOU NO MORE!

OH, HE'LL BE BACK, FARFLE...

MAY THE GODDESS HELP ME-- HE'LL BE BACK!

THE NEXT DAY WAS THE HOLY DAY, PLANETFALL.

SPONSOR SAID UNTO NASA, 'BUILD ME AN ARK!' AND NASA BUILT THE ARK AND FILLED IT WITH A MULTITUDE OF THE FAITHFUL, AND THEN THE ARK BECAME ONE WITH THE LIGHT...

:CHOKE:

I SHOULD NEVER HAVE EVEN ATTEMPTED TO FACE DINNER WITH ALL THE RELATIVES...

MY EMOTIONS WERE STILL BUBBLING OVER LIKE HOT LAVA. I WAS TRYING TO REGAIN MY COMPOSURE...

:SNIF SNIF:

SEE HERE! IS SOMETHING THE MATTER, BOY?

I LOST IT.

:SOB: LEAVE ME ALONE! PLEASE...?

AREN'T YOU A LITTLE OLD FOR THIS KIND OF BEHAVIOR? WHAT WOULD YOUR DEAR DEPARTED FATHER THINK?

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!

SMAK!

OWW! I CAN'T!

I CAN'T... I CAN'T...

I CAN'T...

YES, YOU CAN!

I FEEL IT TOO.

AND AT FIRST I COULDN'T ACCEPT IT EITHER.

IN FACT-- WE MUST!

BUT NOW I KNOW... WE CAN.

HER MUSK PERVADED MY SENSES LIKE A THICK HEAVY INCENSE...

IT WAS PUBIC.

MAMMALIAN.

PURELY SEXUAL.

WHEN IT WAS OVER ALL I HAD LEFT WAS A QUESTION...

MAIA... WHAT IS *HAPPENING* TO US?

WE ARE RESPONDING TO *NATURE'S* WISHES...

YOU HAVE *CAUGHT MY SCENT!* IT IS NATURE'S WAY OF TELLING US WE ARE *SOUL-MATES!*

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED BACK AT THE CIRCUS! I WENT ABSOLUTELY *CRAZY!*

WE PLOO FIND IT A SOMEWHAT MORE PLEASURABLE EXPERIENCE--YET IT IS *NOT* UNHEARD OF FOR A *HUMAN* TO BE A PLOO'S SOUL-MATE...

I JUST *NEVER* THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN TO *ME!*

WHAT'S *WRONG?*

WE HAVE HEEDED NATURE'S CALL...

NOW I MUST GO.

WAIT, MAIA! I WANT US TO BE TOGETHER-- *ALWAYS!*

HOW WILL YOUR *INQUISITION* REACT TO *THAT?*

AND WHAT WOULD THEY DO TO ME IF THEY KNEW I HAD *ESCAPED* THEIR HIDEOUS *DESEXING CAMPS?*

THE *CRIMES* YOUR RACE HAVE PERPETRATED AGAINST MINE WILL NOT END UNTIL WE PLOO ARE *EXTINCT,* SUNOCO FIRESTONE...

NOW, I MAY ONLY BE THE DAUGHTER OF A CIRCUS WHORE, BUT I'M STILL A FULL-BLOODED PLOO WOMAN!

AND SOUL MATE OR NO-- I COULD *NEVER* MARRY A *HUMAN!*

I WASN'T READY FOR WHAT WAS WAITING FOR ME WHEN I GOT HOME...

OH, DEAR SPONSOR-- WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN US...?

:HIC!

UNCLE XEROX...? WHAT'S *WRONG*?

:SLUURRP!: YOU MEAN YOU HAVEN'T *HEARD*?

THE SACRED BROADCASTS HAVE *STOPPED*! SOMETHING IS *JAMMING* THE TRANSMISSIONS... W-WE'VE BEEN *CUT OFF* FROM THE SPONSOR...

GOOD RIDDANCE! THEY NEVER DID MUCH FOR *ME* ANYWAY!

AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

WELL, I LEARNED *ONE* THING TODAY...

MAKING LOVE TO A PLOO *ISN'T* A CRIME. IT'S AN *HONOR*!

SUNOCO! YOU *HAVEN'T*...?

YOU LITTLE *FOOL*! DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS COULD *DO* TO THE FAMILY NAME?

BUT DON'T WORRY...JUST TELL ME *WHO* SHE IS AND I'LL HAVE HER TAKEN CARE OF! NO ONE NEED *EVER* KNOW...

:HIC! BUUUURP!

NO WAY, XEROX! I'VE HAD IT UP TO *HERE*! I'M *LEAVING*!

I JUST WANT TO KISS YOU GOODBYE!

SPLAT! SPLAT! SPLAT!

A FEW HOURS LATER I WAS ON THE HIGH ROAD TO EOS, WAITING FOR THE CIRCUS CARAVAN...

WELL, IF YOU ASK ME, SEX WITH A PLOO *MUST* BE DANGEROUS--

SHE'S OBVIOUSLY DRIVEN *YOU* OFF YOUR NUT...

FRIENDS IS FRIENDS! I'LL COVER YOUR TRACKS AS BEST I CAN!

GOOD LUCK!

I KNOW YOU'LL NEVER *UNDERSTAND*, IPANA... BUT *THANKS* FOR HELPING ME...

I'LL NEVER FORGET IT...

BY THE *JEEZIZ*, MISTER MAN!

IT TOOK QUITE A BIT OF TALKING AND *BOTH* BOTTLES OF THE HOOTCH I'D CLIPPED FROM XEROX'S LIQUOR CABINET, BUT BEFORE THAT NIGHT WAS OUT...

...I'D JOINED THE CIRCUS,

AND LEFT MY PAST FAR BEHIND.

BUT EVEN THE HANGOVER I WAS NURSING THE NEXT MORNING COULDN'T KEEP ME FROM MAIA...

NOK NOK

SLAM!

HER POTENT MUSK SOON HAD ME FAR MORE INTOXICATED THAN ANYTHING I'D DRUNK THE NIGHT BEFORE.

I WAS *WRONG* TO THINK I COULD LEAVE YOU, SUNOCO...

I *NEED* MY SOUL MATE!

NOTHING IS GOING TO SPLIT US APART EVER AGAIN... DO YOU HEAR ME? *NOTHING!*

FORTUNATELY THE CIRCUS FOLK WERE MUCH MORE *TOLERANT* ABOUT SUCH RELATIONSHIPS THAN THE GOVERNMENT...

IN FACT IT WAS ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY...

BUT I WAS IN NEED OF AN HONEST PROFESSION. THANKFULLY FARFLE TOOK ME UNDER HIS WING...

NOW A CLOWN'S *FACE* IS AS IMPORTANT AS AN ARTIST'S CANVAS! LOOK AT *THIS* PUSS! WHY, MISTER MAN, IT TOOK A LIFE OF HARD KICKS TO GET THIS *BEAUTIFUL* CLOWN FACE!

I DIDN'T HAVE QUITE THE RAW MATERIAL THAT FARFLE HAD BUT I APPROACHED THE TASK WITH AN *ENTHUSIASM* I NEVER REALIZED I POSSESED...

IT TOOK *MONTHS* OF TRIAL AND ERROR BUT I FINALLY FOUND IT...

...MY *TRUE* FACE.

IN MAIA'S EMBRACE I WAS COMPLETE-- TOTALLY SEPARATED FROM MY PROBLEMATIC PAST EXISTENCE...

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I FELT *HAPPY*...

SUNOCO... THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO *TELL* YOU...

I THINK... I'M PREGNANT.

THAT'S WHEN THE BOTTOM DROPPED OUT...

I DIDN'T KNOW WHICH I WAS *MORE* AFRAID OF, LOSING MAIA OR...

IT'LL BE A *FREAK*, MAIA-- YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A *MONSTER!* WHY DIDN'T YOU *USE* SOMETHING? OF ALL THE STUPID..

MY BABY WILL *NOT* BE A FREAK! IT IS *YOU* WHO IS THE MONSTER!

GET *OUT* OF HERE! I *NEVER* WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

TIME PASSED...

I DID MY BEST TO APOLOGIZE BUT IT WAS NEVER THE SAME AFTER THAT... A GREAT SHEET OF ICE HAD MOVED BETWEEN US..

AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE.. THE *DREAM* HAD COME BACK TO HAUNT ME...

THE *WELL*, SUNOCO... YOU *MUST* LOOK INTO THE *WELL!*

THE WELL IS CALLING!

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN MONTHS MAIA'D TAKEN ANY REAL INTEREST IN ME SO I TRIED TO EXPLAIN THE DREAM AS BEST I COULD...

I THINK ITS SHOWING ME SOME NEW PART OF MY LIFE THAT YOU AND THE BABY ARE LEADING ME TO...

SOMETHING I'M AFRAID OF...

TELL ME AGAIN ABOUT THIS WELL...

IT WAS VERY OLD... ANCIENT! AND WHEN I LOOK IN I SEE A *WOMAN!*

HER NAME IS *RIMBAUD*-- A PRISONER OF THE INQUISITION-- AND SHE'S *CALLING* ME!

WE WILL BE IN EOS WITHIN THE HOUR, SUNOCO. THERE IS A PLACE THERE I WILL TAKE YOU TO...

COME-- WE MUST GET PREPARED.

BY THE TIME THE CARAVAN PULLED INTO EOS, MAIA HAD DECKED ME OUT IN GREASEPAINT HOPING THAT SHE COULD PASS ME AS A NATIVE IN THAT ANCIENT PLOO CITY...

C'MON, MAIA, CAN'T YOU AT LEAST TELL ME *WHERE* WE'RE GOING?

BE QUIET! DO YOU WANT TO GIVE US AWAY TO THE *GENE POLICE?*

THIS IS *IT!* NOW IF ONLY I CAN CONVINCE THE GUARD TO LET US *PASS.*

ULP.

MAIA, WHAT *IS* THIS PLACE?

IT IS AN *ENTRANCE,* SUNOCO... ONE OF *MANY...*

IT LEADS TO A *WELL...*

THE WELL? I-IT'S JUST LIKE IN MY *DREAM!* WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? *WHAT IS THIS?*

ONE OF OUR MOST SACRED SHRINES...

IT *IS* THE WELL OF YOUR DREAMS, SUNOCO.

IT IS THE WELL OF *ALL* DREAMS.

I DON'T WANT TO GO *NEAR* IT...

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND *ANYTHING?* YOU HAVE *DREAMED* THE WELL-- YOU HAVE *NO CHOICE!*

YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO *HEARTBURST!*

YOU MUST STARE DOWN INTO THE DEPTHS... AND IF IT *CALLS* YOU THEN YOU MUST GO *IN...*

NO, THIS IS *CRAZY*

THIS IS...

THE WELL CALLED.

BUT I COULDN'T ANSWER...

NOOOO!

SUNOCO, COME BACK!

STOP, YOU FOOL! :UGH!:

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER PLOO'S GONE LOCO, BOYS! GRAB 'IM!

OH, YOU IDIOT!

LET'S CHECK HIM OUT AND SEE IF HE'S BEEN GELDED!

THIS ONE AIN'T NO PLOO--HE'S HUMAN!

AND THAT PLOO BITCH THAT'S WITH HIM--

SHE'S PREGNANT!

AS A FULLY SEXED PLOO WOMAN, MAIA WAS EQUIPPED WITH A POWERFUL *NATURAL DEFENSE*--

HER NOXIOUS BODY SCENT CAUGHT THE GENE POLICE WITHOUT THEIR PROTECTIVE MASKS...

EVEN *I* WAS REPELLED!

AND LEFT ALL ALONE TO PAY MY DEBT TO SOCIETY...

YOUR YOUTHFULNESS IS *NO EXCUSE* FOR THE HEINIOUS CRIMES YOU HAVE PERPETRATED, SUNOCO,

AND THERE CAN BE *NO FAVORITES* IN THE EYES OF THE LAW-- *NO LENIENCY* FOR THOSE WE KNOW AND LOVE...

THEREFORE THIS COURT HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO SENTENCE YOU TO THE *MAXIMUM* THE LAW ALLOWS...

LIFE IN PRISON WITH NO CHANCE OF PAROLE!

THE DREAM!

IT IS NOW A LONG RECURRING *NIGHTMARE!*

FOR *YEARS* I HAVE BEEN HAUNTED BY WHAT IT *HOLDS* FOR ME!

AND BY A *VOICE...*

THE *WELL,* SUNOCO!

YOU MUST *LOOK* INTO THE WELL...

THE VOICE OF A WOMAN I MET ONLY ONCE...

RIMBAUD.

COME WITH ME, *NOW!*

I CAN'T LEAVE *MAIA...*

I... *WHA?*

NOW, SUNOCO!

HEARTRHYTHM

WAKE UP, *PRISONER!* C'MON, GRAB YER SOCK!

THESE DREAMS DIDN'T VARY AT ALL...

AND WHILE LOCKED UP AT *THE ENDS* THERE WAS PLENTY OF TIME FOR DREAMING...

YA'GOT A *VISITOR*, 63303...

A REAL *IMPORTANT* VISITOR...

I WAS CONVICTED OF COPULATING WITH A NATIVE...

BUT MY LOVE FOR MAIA WAS *NO* CRIME...

IF HE GIVES YOU ANY GRIEF, SIR, JUST CALL--I'LL BE RIGHT OUTSIDE...

THANK YOU, SEARGENT. THAT WILL BE ALL.

HELLO, SUNOCO...

NO, IF I WAS GUILTY OF ANYTHING IT WAS FEAR, STUPIDITY, IMMATURITY.

I'M *SORRY*, MAIA. GOD, HOW I MISS YOU...

WE'VE *MISSED* YOU AROUND THE HOUSE, NEPHEW.

I BET.

ISN'T IT HARD TO BELIEVE THAT FOUR YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE WE USED TO COME HERE TOGETHER TO PASS JUDGEMENT IN THE NAME OF THE SPONSOR...?

TO THINK THAT *YOU* ENDED UP IMPRISONED. TCH...

AND HERE WAS MY UNCLE, THE MAN WHO SENTENCED ME AND NOW INQUISITOR GENERAL OF ALL EPSILON BOOTIS...

I ONCE HAD THE PLEASURE OF REARRANGING HIS FACE...

HE DIDN'T APPRECIATE THAT.

WHAT'Y'WANT, XEROX? SOME MORE TRUMPED UP CHARGES TO ACCUSE ME OF?

I CAN ONLY SERVE *ONE* LIFE SENTENCE.

I'M AFRAID YOUR CRIMES WERE ONLY *TOO* REAL, NEPHEW. IN FACT WE HAVE GOOD REASON TO SUSPECT THAT YOU COMMITTED A FAR *GRAVER* OFFENSE...

WE HAVE RELIABLE WITNESSES WHO SAY YOUR PLOOTRAMP WAS *PREGNANT!*

OH, I GET IT-- YOU'RE HERE TO *GLOAT!* GIVE YOURSELF A PAT ON THE BACK FOR RIDDING SOCIETY OF ANOTHER *DEVIATE!*

YOU COULD *ALWAYS* RATIONALIZE *ANYTHING*, COULDN'T YOU, XEROX?

SINCE THE HOLY BROADCASTS ENDED, DECISIONS *HAVE* BECOME MORE *DIFFICULT*, BUT I *TRY*.. WITH THE GRACE OF THE SPONSOR, I TRY...

WHICH IS *WHY* I'M *HERE*...

THINGS HAVE CHANGED *CONSIDERABLY* WHILE YOU'VE BEEN AWAY, NEPHEW... IT SEEMS THE GOVERNING COUNCIL GOT INTO SOME DIFFICULTY...

WE CLERGY HAVE HAD TO ASSUME POWER --WITH THE HELP OF THE *GENE POLICE*, OF COURSE...

OF *COURSE.*

YOU CAN'T HAVE A SUCCESFUL *COUP* WITHOUT THE BACKING OF THE *MILITARY.*

PERHAPS YOUR TIME IN PRISON HAS...*MATURED* YOU, SUNOCO...

...MATURED YOU ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND WHY EVERY MAN ON THAT COUNCIL *DESERVED* JUST WHAT HE *GOT!*

THOSE WEAKLINGS ALLOWED A SMALL NATIVE UPRISING TO GET OUT OF HAND. THE PLOO WERE ABLE TO RAISE A STANDING *ARMY!*

NOW WE ARE WITNESS TO THE SPECTACLE OF OUR TOWNS DESTROYED, FACTORIES BURNED, OUR PEOPLE SLAUGHTERED.

WE'VE HAD TO RESORT TO OUR *NUCLEAR* OPTION...

BUT EVEN *THAT* HASN'T TURNED THE TIDE...

WHEN WE HIT THEM, THEY COME BACK STRONGER *SOMEWHERE ELSE!*

I'M AFRAID THE SITUATION IS *GRIM.*

WHOLE DNISIONS OF GENE POLICE HAVE BEEN LOST! WE'RE *DESPERATELY LOW* IN MANPOWER--

SO WE'VE DECIDED TO RAISE A *NEW* ARMY-- A *CONVICT ARMY!* WE'RE OFFERING TOTAL *AMNESTY* TO *ANY* PRISONER WHO WILL *FIGHT...*

INCLUDING *YOU!*

FIGHT FOR *WHAT?* TO REGAIN ALL THE LAND WE ORIGINALLY *STOLE* FROM THE PLOO?

OR FOR THE HONOR AND GLORY OF HERDING THEM INTO YOUR HORRIBLE *DESEXING CAMPS?*

THE CAMPS WERE NECESSARY!

THE FILTHY STINKERS WERE BREEDING LIKE *RATS!* THEY WERE SEDUCING OUR *WOMEN* WITH THEIR MUSK--LIKE *ANIMALS!*

WHEN THE *MONSTERS* BEGAN TO BE BORN WE HAD TO *ACT* TO PRESERVE OUR RACIAL IDENTITY!

XEROX'S WORDS SCRAPED *ACROSS* THE EXPOSED NERVES OF MY *OWN* GUILT AND FEAR.

I HAD NEVER SEEN MAIA'S AND MY CHILD, HAD IT BEEN BORN HUMAN, OR PLOO, OR...?

I CAN'T KILL PLOO.

I *PREPARED* FOR THIS EVENTUALITY. I'VE ARRANGED FOR YOU TO BE GIVEN A *NONCOMBATANT ASSIGNMENT.*

YOU'LL BE WORKING WITH SOMEONE I WANT WATCHED *VERY CLOSELY...*

I KNEW WHO HE MEANT...

AND I HAD REASONS OF MY *OWN* FOR KEEPING TABS ON *RIMBAUD.*

LIFE IS *BEING*, BOTH DOING AND NOT-DOING.

ART IS *MAKING.*

POETRY IS THE WHOLE SMEAR...

AND *YOU* ARE A POET?

I *THOUGHT* I WAS.

AND IT WAS MY ABILITY TO *TRANSLATE FEELINGS* THAT FIRST MADE THE *SCIENTISTS* SEARCH ME OUT...

GRAVES REGISTRATION

YOU REALLY *ARE* FROM EARTH, AREN'T YOU?

YES, I AM ... AND I *NEVER* WANTED TO COME HERE TO EPSILON BOOTIS! BUT THEY SAID I WAS ONE OF THE *FEW* WHO COULD MAKE THE *JUMP*.. THEY *NEEDED* ME TO REESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE LONG LOST COLONISTS...

WELL, I MADE CONTACT WITH YOU ALL RIGHT.. YOU TORTURED ME, IMPRISONED ME, AND NOW I'M CLEANING UP YOUR DEAD...*SOME* CONTACT!

BUT IF EARTH WANTED TO COMMUNICATE WITH US, WHY DIDN'T THEY JUST SPEAK THROUGH THE *SACRED BROADCASTS*?

I'VE GOT *NEWS* FOR YOU, HI-TEST! *YOUR* SACRED BROADCASTS WERE *OUR* TRASHY ENTERTAINMENT!

TO OUR PEOPLE THEY WERE LIKE THE *ORACLE.*

THEY LEFT EARTH OVER THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO AS *TELEVISION SIGNALS!*

OUR GREATEST THEOLOGIANS STUDIED THEM FOR GUIDANCE.

TAPES SUCH AS THESE WERE OUR RELIGIOUS ICONS-- WORTH *DYING* FOR...

CLICK!

PERHAPS THE FATE OF THE PLOD ISN'T AS *TRAGIC* AS YOUR *OWN.*

I FEEL THAT MY FATE IS INTERTWINED WITH YOURS!

RIMBAUD, I HAVE A CONFESSION TO MAKE...

THAT YOU'RE A SPY? I'VE KNOWN THAT FOR WEEKS NOW, HI-TEST.

I RECOGNIZED YOU FROM THE INQUISITION!

YES, IT'S TRUE. I WAS SENT TO SPY ON YOU...

BUT I CAME FOR MY OWN REASONS...VERY PERSONAL REASONS.

A SPY IN THE HOUSE OF LOVE?

...OR DREAMS?

NIGHTMARES!! FOR YEARS NOW--HORRIBLE NIGHTMARES OF FALLING THROUGH SPACE--FEELING THE APPALLING DISTANCES BETWEEN THE PLANETS!

AND YOU, RIMBAUD... YOU'RE ALWAYS CALLING ME...

AND YOU'VE COME-- OH, THANK GOD!

I'VE BEEN CALLING EVER SINCE I ARRIVED HERE--JUST HOPING SOMEONE COULD PICK ME UP!

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG, HI-TEST?

HOW..?

SCIENTISTS CALL IT THE UNIFIED FIELD. A SINGLE THEOREM THAT EXPLAINS ALL THE DIVERSE FORCES IN THE UNIVERSE AND HOW THEY INTERRELATE! WE'RE DOING FANTASTIC THINGS WITH IT...

FANTASTIC BECAUSE THE EQUATION'S ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT IS THE HUMAN HEART!

BY ALLOWING OUR FEELINGS TO RESONATE IN THE FIELD, WE COMMUNICATE WITH ONE ANOTHER IN OUR DREAMS!

OR TRAVEL THE DISTANCES BETWEEN WORLDS IN THE WINK OF AN EYE!

ALL ONE NEEDS IS TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THE CORE OF THEIR OWN EMOTIONS... AND IN THE RIGHT PLACE!

SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST GET TO THAT PLACE... AND GO?

THE GENE POLICE DESTROYED MY INITIAL LANDING POINT...

BUT THERE ARE MORE OF THEM, ALL OVER THE PLANET-- I JUST HAVEN'T FOUND ANY YET!

NOW YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE...?

HOW FAR ARE WE FROM EOS?

IT JUST SO HAPPENED, NOT FAR AT ALL...

A FRIEND OF MINE--A *PLOO* GIRL--BROUGHT ME HERE ONCE AND SHOWED ME A *WELL*--EXACTLY AS IN MY DREAMS...

IT WAS THE *LAST* TIME I EVER *SAW* HER...

THE FIGHTING IS *FEROCIOUS* DOWN THERE! IT LOOKS LIKE THE CONVICT ARMY IS TRYING TO PUSH THE PLOO *BACK* INTO THE CITY!

IF THIS FOLLOWS THE *USUAL* PROCEDURE, THEY'LL KEEP THE PLOO PINNED DOWN *INSIDE* WITH ARTILLERY WHILE THEY PULL OUR TROOPS *BACK*...

THEN THEY'LL *NUKE* THE PLACE!

WITH A LITTLE LUCK AND GOOD TIMING WE JUST *MIGHT* BE ABLE TO SLIP IN BETWEEN...

LOOKOUT!

HI-TEST--THANK GOD YOU...

...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SUNOCO?

FOR A SINGLE SICKENING INSTANT I THOUGHT IT HAD BEEN MAIA I HAD KILLED...

BUT IT WAS SOME *OTHER* POOR GIRL...

I GUESS YOU WERE PRETTY *TIGHT* WITH THIS PLOO LADY FRIEND OF YOURS?

YEAH.

ANYTHING YOU WANT TO *TALK* ABOUT...?

NO.

LISTEN, HI-TEST-- I DON'T KNOW YOUR PERSONAL SOAP OPERA, AND I DON'T *WANT* TO KNOW-- BUT I CAN SEE YOU'RE CARRYING SOME REAL *PROBLEMS* ON YOUR SHOULDERS...

NOT THE *LEAST* OF WHICH IS THEY'LL PROBABLY SHOOT YOU FOR A *DESERTER* IF YOU GO *BACK.*

BUT YOU DON'T *HAVE* TO GO BACK-- YOU CAN COME WITH *ME!* MAKE THE *JUMP* TO *EARTH!*

NO!

YOU HEARD ME *CALLING* TO YOU-- YOU'VE *DREAMT* OF THE WELLS... YOU'RE *ALREADY* IN *TOUCH* WITH THE *UNIFIED FIELD!*

NO.

YOU CAN *DO* IT! I CAN *SHOW* YOU *HOW!*

RIMBAUD, I CAN'T LEAVE HER...

IT'S AS EASY AS *THIS!*

WE SHARED A LONG NIGHT OF SENSATION, ELATION, TENSION, AND ULTIMATELY... *RELEASE!*

THE GENE POLICE ARE STARTING TO *WITHDRAW!* THE CONVICT ARMY IS HOLDING THE LINE FOR THEM...

THOSE POOR CONVICTS HAVE EARNED THEIR PARDONS THE HARD WAY-- THEY'VE BEEN HANDED *EVERY* DIRTY JOB IN THE CAMPAIGN!

IF WE SLIP IN *NOW*, WE'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO FIND THE WELL *BEFORE* THE NUKE HITS... WHAT DO YOU SAY, HI-TEST?

I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE... MAKE A CLEAN BREAK... START A NEW LIFE...

I- I THINK I WANT TO GO WITH YOU, RIMBAUD.

I THOUGHT YOU'D COME AROUND.

WE QUICKLY FOUND A GAP IN THE LINE AND ENTERED EOS...

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE *PLOO?*

KLAWH

KRAH

I DOUBT IF THEY'RE IN ANY MOOD TO GREET A COUPLE OF HUMANS WITH OPEN ARMS RIGHT NOW...

I'M BETTING THE PLOO ARE ALL LONG GONE!

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE *RIGHT!* THE PLACE IS A *GHOST TOWN!*

BUT THE CITY IS *SURROUNDED!* HOW DID THEY GET *OUT?*

KWHAM

THE SAME WAY *WE'RE* GOING!

I'VE ALWAYS *THOUGHT* THE PLOO UNDERSTOOD THE TRUE NATURE OF THE WELLS-- IT'S THE *ONLY* WAY TO EXPLAIN SOME OF THEIR *TROOP MOVEMENTS!*

IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE *BEEN* HERE-- I'M NOT SURE IF I CAN *FIND* THE PLACE...

USE YOUR *FEELINGS,* SUNOCO! THEY'LL GUIDE US RIGHT TO IT!

THIS *MIGHT* BE IT-- IT'S HARD TO TELL WITH ALL THE SHELLING!

HERE'S A WAY IN...

THIS IS *MAD,* RIMBAUD--THE WHOLE PLACE IS READY TO COME DOWN ON OUR HEADS!

I-I'M NOT SURE IF THIS IS IT AT ALL... WE'D BETTER GO...

OH NO-- THIS IS *DEFINITELY* THE PLACE!

CAN'T YOU *FEEL* IT, SUNOCO?

THE STEADY BEAT OF THE ONE TRUE *HEART...?*

THE VERY *PULSE* OF OUR GALAXY?

Y-YES... I DO FEEL SOMETHING...

SOMETHING THAT I'M *AFRAID* OF!

REACH OUT, SUNOCO...

USE YOUR FEELINGS FOR ME AS AN ANCHOR--I CAN GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE *HARD* PART!

THIS IS THE HARD PART...

YOU SEE, THE WOMAN I REALLY LOVE IS ON THIS PLANET... AND IF I GO TO EARTH, I'LL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN...

THE PLOO GIRL? I THOUGHT THAT WAS ALL DECIDED...?

I THOUGHT SO TOO. BUT NOW THAT I'M *FACED* WITH IT...

I CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH THIS, RIMBAUD-- I CAN'T!

SUNOCO, DO YOU *HEAR* ANY-THING?

NO...?

THAT'S JUST IT! THE SHELLING'S *STOPPED!*

THEY WOULDN'T DO *THAT* UNLESS...

...THEY'RE SENDING IN THE *BIG ONE!*

BUT THERE HASN'T BEEN TIME ENOUGH TO PULL ALL THE *TROOPS* BACK...

THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE! IT COULD HIT ANY SECOND!

WE'VE GOT TO MAKE THE JUMP *NOW!*

GOME ON!

BUT, BUT...

TRAP

THEY WOULDN'T BOMB THEIR OWN TROOPS, WOULD THEY?

WOULDN'T THEY?

NOOOO!

AS EOS, IN ITS DEATH THROES, FUSED AND MELTED BEHIND..

I PLUNGED INTO A VERTIGO FROM A THOUSAND HAUNTED NIGHTMARES...

AND I KNEW *SPACE*...

SO DEEP.

SO VAST.

THIS WAY, SUNOCO!

WE'VE GOT TO BE READY TO CATCH THE *NEXT WAVE!*

MY SENSATIONS BURNED AT FEVER PITCH...

I WAS REEXPERIENCING EVERY EMOTION I'D EVER KNOWN *MAGNIFIED* TO THE ABSOLUTE *INFINITE!*

AND THEY WERE ALL FOCUSED UPON...

MAIA!

YOU HAVE TO GIVE HER *UP*, SUNOCO!

DON'T LET YOURSELF BE PULLED *BACK!*

SUNOCO!

I'M COMING, MAIA!

ONE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO FOLLOW HIS *HEART*...

NO MATTER *WHERE* IT MIGHT LEAD...

MY METABOLISM BEGAN TO SLOW AS MY FEET ONCE AGAIN TOUCHED SOLID GROUND...

GOODBYE, RIMBAUD...

AND THE INCREDIBLE EVENTS I HAD JUST EXPERIENCED SLID AWAY LIKE A DREAM...

...LIKE *ALL* THOSE DREAMS.

HOLD IT *RIGHT THERE*, CONVICT.

TURN AROUND *REAL* SLOW...

I DON'T KNOW *HOW* YOU FOUND YOUR WAY IN *HERE*, BUT...

BY THE JEEZIZ, MISTER MAN-- IS THAT YOU, SUNOCO?

FARFLE?! THEN THE CIRCUS IS NEARBY?

YEAH! WE PUT UP HERE WAITIN' OUT THE WAR! BUT WHAT ARE *YOU* DOIN'...?

UH-OH...YER LOOKIN' FOR *MAIA*, AIN'TCHA'?

YES.

THEN YOU BETTER TURN AROUND AND GO *BACK* THE WAY YOU CAME OR ELSE YOU'RE GONNA' BE IN A WORLD OF HURT...

I *HAVE* TO SEE HER, FARFLE. I'VE GOT TO *KNOW!*

SUNOCO... IT *AIN'T* WHAT YOU THINK.

MAIA! MAIA! IT'S ME!

SUNOCO...?

OH, SUNOCO... I THOUGHT YOU HAD BEEN *KILLED*..

IT DOESN'T MATTER *NOW*, MAIA. ALL THAT MATTERS IS I'M *HERE*, AND WE CAN BE *TOGETHER* AGAIN!

SUNOCO... BEFORE YOU GO ANY *FURTHER*...

THERE IS *SOMETHING* YOU SHOULD *KNOW*...

WHAT'S *WRONG*? I THOUGHT YOU AND I...

I--I WANT YOU TO MEET *TOOBA*... MY *HUSBAND*.

TOOBA IS A TRIBE ELDER..

YES, *YES*! I'M THE FATHER! WHERE IS IT?

I WANT TO SEE...

YOU MIGHT FIND HIM RIGHT OVER *THERE*...

¡CHOKE!

MAIA WAS ALONE AND BIG WITH CHILD.. I TOOK HER IN...

YOU ARE THE CHILD'S FATHER?

IN *THAT* CARAVAN!

LIVING HORRORS! FREAKS

NO!

IT'S NOT FAIR!

SUNOCO-- IT'S NOT HIS FAULT!

FOOLISH HUMAN! LIKE ALL YOUR RACE YOU LASH OUT AT THAT WHICH YOU *FAIL* TO UNDERSTAND!

AAAAK!

NOW YOU WILL *SLEEP!*

BEFORE TOOBA'S MUSK MY SENSES DRAINED AWAY LIKE DIRTY DISHWATER...

...AND PERHAPS *SOMEDAY* YOU WILL *UNDERSTAND.*

MAIA... MAIA... MAIA...

I'M *SORRY,* SUNOCO, BUT YOU'LL SEE... IT WILL BE *BETTER* THIS WAY.

HOW MUCH TIME PASSED? I DON'T KNOW... BUT WHEN I CAME TO I WAS *BACK* WITH MY *OWN* KIND...

OOOOH... MY HEAD.

HEY YOU, CONVICT!

WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' OFF YOUR TRAIN?

UUNGH.. I'M *SICK!* I NEED A *MEDIC!*

WE *KNOW* YOU'RE SICK, PAL-- *THAT'S* WHY YER SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE *TRAIN!*

NOW GET *ON BOARD* BEFORE WE RUN YOU UP IN FRONT OF A *FIRING SQUAD!*

YEAH, OKAY... TAKE IT *EASY!*

THE DOORS SLAMMED SHUT BEHIND ME...

H-HELP ME...

OOOOHH...

THE TRAIN LURCHED AND SLOWLY BEGAN TO ROLL OUT OF THE RAILHEAD...

WHAT HAPPENED TO EVERYONE?

W-WE NEVER GOT WORD TO EVACUATE 'FORE THEY NUKED EOS... WHOLE CONVICT ARMY WAS TOO CLOSE TO THE BLAST... GOT CAUGHT IN THE RADIATION STORM...

A-ARE YOU A DOCTOR?

WATER?

M-MEDIC... *KOFF*

IT WAS THE SAME IN EACH AND EVERY COMPARTMENT... THE MOANS OF THE WOUNDED... THE STENCH OF DYING FLESH...

THE CONSPICUOUS LACK OF ANY MEDICAL HELP...

FINALLY...

THIS MEDIC'S AS BAD OFF AS THE REST OF THESE CONVICTS, BUT THANK GOD HE'S GOT A WELL-STOCKED MEDICAL KIT...

I'M NO DOCTOR, BUT I'VE GOT TO DO WHAT I CAN FOR THESE POOR BASTARDS!

AT LEAST UNTIL WE ARRIVE AT A HOSPITAL.

I THINK IT WAS SOMETIME DURING THE THIRD DAY THAT I FINALLY COLLAPSED FROM EXHAUSTION...

I AWOKE TO FIND WE WERE ON A *SIDING* FAR OUT IN THE BADLANDS...

DESERTED BY OUR LOCOMOTIVE.

~~~

H-HELP ME...

H-WATER.

LEFT TO BROIL IN THE MERCILESS SUN...

MEDIC...

DAMN YOU...

DAMN YOU *ALL!*

OOOHH...

MEDIC. MEDIC. MEDIC.

I'M SICK...

...WATER...

I-I *CAN'T* HELP YOU ALL...

I'M *ONLY* ONE MAN...

DON'T YOU *SEE?* THIS IS THE WAY THEY *PLANNED* IT!!

THERE NEVER WERE ANY PARDONS!

YOU DID THEIR *DIRTY WORK* AND NOW THEY'RE GETTING *RID* OF YOU!

ALL THAT'S LEFT FOR THEM TO DO IS...

...IS...?

DESTROY THE EVIDENCE!

U.S.A. 202

U.S.A. 808
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THAT WAS THE BREAKING POINT...

I WAS BORN TO A WELL RESPECTED FAMILY ON EPSILON BOOTIS...

I GOT JUICED IN THE FINEST SCHOOLS, ALL RIGHT, AND I SERVED AS ACOLYTE TO THE GRAND INQUISITOR...

BUT THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY PLACE FOR ME IN POLITE SOCIETY...

...I'D BECOME A DESERTER... A LOOTER... A REBEL...

A REFUGEE OF LOVE...

I HAD *RESIGNED* FROM THE HUMAN RACE...

THE DREAM!

I'M BACK AT THE WELL BUT ITS LIGHT IS *WEAK*--ALMOST DISSIPATED...

THE *VOICE* THAT CALLS OUT IS *MY OWN*...

THE ONLY REPLY IS AN EMPTY ECHO...

RIMBAUD--CAN YOU *HEAR* ME?

RIMBAUD!

RIMBAUD

RIMBAUD

RIMBAND

IT'S *NO* USE. IT DOESN'T *WORK* ANYMORE. I CAN'T GET THROUGH TO HER...

THE UNIFIED FIELD IS *DEAD!*

DYING, YES--BUT NOT DEAD... *YET!*

RIMBAUD?

NO!! ITS--*TOOBA!*

LISTEN TO ME, HUMAN! THE LIGHT IS DYING BECAUSE OF *YOUR* RACE'S THIRST FOR THE ANNIHILATION OF THE PLOO... EVERY WELL BUT *ONE* HAS BEEN *VAPORIZED* BY YOUR *ATOMIC WEAPONS!*

HEY--I DIDN'T WANT THEM USED! I--

IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE! NOTHING MATTERS EXCEPT *RENEWING THE LIGHT!*

ONLY A *HEARTBURST* CAN DO THAT--AND I AM THE LAST OF THE PLOO WHO CAN PERFORM IT...

I KNOW *YOU* AREN'T LIKE THE OTHERS, SUNOCO FIRESTONE--YOUR HEART IS *OPEN* AND SO THE DYING LIGHT HAS *LED* ME TO YOU...

WHEN THE PLOO ARE GONE FROM THIS PLANET, IT IS *YOU* WHO MUST CARRY ON AND KEEP THE LIGHT *ALIVE!*

FOLLOW YOUR HEART TO THE *LAST WELL*, WHICH WE HAVE LONG HIDDEN FROM THE INVADER, AND LEARN THE SECRET OF THE *HEARTBURST!*

WAIT! HOW DO I KNOW THIS ISN'T A *TRICK?*

HEARTBURST

I AWOKE IN A STATE OF TOTAL RAGE...

WHY SHOULD I HELP YOU, YOU OLD SORCERER--?

YOU STOLE MAIA...

...AND THE KID...

IT DIDN'T LAST LONG... NONE OF MY OUTBURSTS DID ANY MORE..

IT HAD BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE I'D FLED UP HERE TO THE MOUNTAINS...

WHERE A MAN MIGHT *FORGET* ABOUT RACE WARS AND NUKES AND UNIFIED FIELDS...

SHIT.

...WHERE A MAN MIGHT *FIND* HIMSELF...

BUT, COMES A TIME, YOU *DO* JUST THAT--

YOU FIND YOURSELF.

SO I FOLLOWED MY FEELINGS DOWN FROM THAT MYSTICAL HIGH COUNTRY THAT I'D GROWN TO CHERISH SO...

...BACK TO 'CIVILIZATION'...

...AND ITS NIGHTMARE REALITIES...

THEN YOU REALIZE YOU CAN'T RUN OUT ON YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

TO THE *LAST* PLACE IN THE GALAXY I EVER COULD HAVE IMAGINED...

THE ENDS!

IT STILL STOOD LIKE A GREAT DECAYED FANG, LONG DESERTED BY THOSE POOR SOULS IT HAD ONCE IMPRISONED...

I'D SPENT FOUR YEARS IN THIS SWELTERING HELL HOLE AND NEVER ONCE SUSPECTED WHAT IT MIGHT HIDE...

IT MADE SOME KIND OF CRAZY SENSE THOUGH...

MY STRONGEST VISIONS HAPPENED HERE.

THERE HAD BEEN RUMORS THAT THE PRISON HAD BEEN BUILT BY PLOO SLAVES OVER ONE OF THEIR SACRED PLACES...

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT--MY FEELINGS SAY *HERE!*

BRAWAAAM

I WONDERED HOW MANY HAD DIED TO MAKE SURE THEIR HUMAN MASTERS REMAINED UNAWARE OF THIS HOLIEST OF SHRINES...

...WHAT WAS NOW THE *LAST WELL* ON EPSILON BOOTIS...

I HAD SPENT A WEEK CLEARING DEBRIS FROM THE WELL WHEN THE FIRST OF THEM STRAGGLED IN...

WITHIN A MONTH THE OLD PRISON WAS A FULL-FLEDGED REFUGEE CAMP, CHOKED WITH THE LAST REMNANTS OF A PROUD RACE, EACH NOW NUMB FROM THE HORRORS OF WOUNDS SUFFERED, FAMILIES MURDERED, CITIES LEVELED...

THEY WERE GHOSTLY VICTIMS, LONG PAST BEARING ME ANY GRUDGE FOR WHAT HAD BEEN VISITED UPON THEM...

LIKE MYSELF, THEY WERE *WAITING*... FOR *SOMETHING!*

ONE DAY, TORN AND TATTERED, IT *ARRIVED*...

WE GOT *WOUNDED!*

FARFLE! WHAT HAPPENED?

WE GOT BUSHWHACKED BY GENE POLICE ROVERS UP ON THE MESA...

THEY CLAWED US *BAD*, BUT I THINK WE *LOST* 'EM!

WE'D JUST PICKED UP SOME MORE RADIATION VICTIMS...

THE LAST OF THE PLOO CITIES WAS NUKED LAST WEEK...

TOOBA CONTACTED ME... I GUESS I'M HERE TO *HELP.*

BY THE JEEZIZ, MISTER MAN, I'M *GLAD* TO HEAR IT, EVEN IF IT MEANS WE'LL *BOTH* END UP ON THE INQUISITOR'S TORTURE RACKS...

SOMEBODY'S GOT TO STAND UP AND SAY *'NO'* TO WHAT'S BEIN' DONE TO THESE POOR PLOO!

I'M AFRAID IT IS *TOO LATE* FOR THE PLOO, FARFLE...

HAVE YOU UNCOVERED THE WELL, SUNOCO?

BEFORE WE GET INTO THAT, I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT *MAIA* AND THE *CHILD*...

THE CHILD WAS NOT INJURED IN THE FIGHTING...

BUT I'M AFRAID MAIA WAS! SHE'S LOST SOME BLOOD...

THERE ARE MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN MY PACK--HAVE SOMEONE GET THEM...

MAIA--IT'S ME...SUNOCO. I'M HERE, BABY... EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT-- I PROMISE!

...OH, SUNOCO... I...LOVE... YOU SO...

ERR...UH...PERHAPS I SHOULD HELP WITH THE OTHER WOUNDED...

MAIA'S WOUNDS WEREN'T SERIOUS--SHE CAME TO AS I FINISHED DRESSING THEM.

YOU'RE OKAY, MAIA-- YOU JUST NEED REST. THE CHILD IS WITH TOOBA...

THEN YOU'VE SEEN?

NO...YOU HAVEN'T-- HAVE YOU?

OH MY SOUL MATE! HOLD ME?

WE SPOKE NO MORE THAT NIGHT...THE CLOSENESS OF OUR BODIES SAID ALL THAT WAS NEEDED...

IN MAIA'S EMBRACE, SLEEP CAME AS EASY AS IT ALWAYS HAD...

AND SLEEP GAVE WAY TO DREAM!

IN THE *END* IT WAS OUR OWN SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS THAT DEFEATED US...

WE *UNDERSTOOD* THE WELLS BUT NEVER CHOSE TO USE THEM TO VENTURE OUT TO *OTHER WORLDS!*

UNTIL THE *INVADER* CAME-- AND THEN IT WAS *TOO LATE!* WE HAD *FORGOTTEN HOW!*

SO THE PLOO DIE... BUT THE *LIGHT* MUST GO *ON* EVEN UNTO THE INVADER! ARE YOU READY TO LEARN THE *SECRET* OF THE *HEARTBURST?*

I'M READY-- BUT I HAVE A *PRICE!*

MY PRICE IS *MAIA!*

I'M AFRAID MAIA IS *NOT* MINE TO GIVE. YOU SEE I AM NOT *REALLY* HER HUSBAND!

THAT WAS A LITTLE *STORY* WE COOKED UP IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE *CHILD!* WE HOPED *HE* MIGHT HAVE THE POWER, *TOO...*

AND HE DOES...?

HE DOES *NOT.* THE LIGHT ISN'T PASSED ON FROM FATHER TO SON... IT *CHOOSES* IT'S VESSELS AT RANDOM...

YOU AND I ARE THE *LAST* OF THE CHOSEN, HERE.

PLEASE PLACE YOUR HAND ON MY HEART...

I-IT'S STARTING TO BEAT VERY STRANGELY--NOW IT'S POUNDING TO A WILD RHYTHM-- THIS ISN'T *NORMAL,* TOOBA!

YOU HAVE FELT IT IN YOUR *OWN* HEART, THE MANY TIMES YOU EXPERIENCED EMOTIONAL DISTRESS...

NOW YOU MUST LEARN TO *CONTROL* IT, TO SYNCHRONIZE YOURSELF WITH THE *ONE HEART* THAT BEATS US *ALL!*

THUS WILL YOUR *OWN* HEART FULLY OPEN--

AND LET FORTH THE LIGHT!

SUDDENLY TOOBA'S SMILE OF RAPTURE TWISTED INTO A GRIMACE OF PAIN...

AAARRRRGG

SOMETHING... ATTACKING MY PHYSICAL BODY...

CAN'T *COMPLETE* THE PROCESS!

OOOOHHH

I-IT'S TOO LATE... I'M *DYING!* HUMAN, LISTEN TO ME...

THE LIGHT IS THE *CONNECTION* WITH THE *LIFE FORCE* OF THE *GALAXY!* WITHOUT IT THIS PLANET AND ALL LIFE UPON IT WILL DRY UP AND... *DIE...*

YOU... MUST... RENEW LIGHT... YOU...MUST... HEARTBURST...

BUT I'M NOT *READY* YET--I NEED TO KNOW *MORE!*

TOOBA!?

ROLLING THUNDER WOKE ME...

SHOW ME, TOOBA! PLEASE!

HUH?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM

IT SOUNDS LIKE ALL *HELL'S* BREAKING LOOSE!

IT'S THE *GENE POLICE!* THEY MUST HAVE *TRACKED* THE CARAVAN HERE--

I'LL GET US OUT OF THIS *SOMEHOW!* MAIA-- C'MON!

WAIT, SUNOCO... THERE IS *SOMEONE* WE MUST GET FIRST...

OUR BABY...

OUR BABY...?

WE'LL GET HIM, MAIA! I DON'T CARE *WHAT* HE LOOKS LIKE-- *WE'LL GET HIM!*

MAYBE *THIS* WILL GIVE US A *FIGHTING CHANCE!*

OH-- GODDESS HAVE MERCY! *LOOK!*

IT'S TOOBA'S WAGON-- IT'S TAKEN A *DIRECT HIT!* H-HE'S...

HE'S *BEYOND* HELP-- PERHAPS WE'RE *ALL* BEYOND HELP...

WHICH WAY--? WHICH WAY?

SKREEE BLOM

OVER HERE, SUNOCO! HE'S RIGHT IN THE NEXT WAGON--

I SAW WHAT YOU DID TO MY MATES, YOU PLOO LOVIN' *TRAITOR!* I OUGHTA' *CASTRATE* YOU WHERE YOU LAY...

TOO BAD *INQUISITOR FIRESTONE* GAVE ORDERS THAT ANY *HUMANS* WE FIND BELONG TO *HIM!*

TOO BAD FOR *YOU!*

OH, NO... UNCLE XEROX... HERE?

HE'S YOUR *UNCLE?* THEN *YOU* MUST BE...

SUNOCO! IT'S ME-- *IPANA SCHLITZ!*

QUITE A BIT OF WATER OVER THE DAM SINCE THAT NIGHT I HELPED YOU RUN AWAY AND JOIN THE CIRCUS, EH?

IPANA... IS THERE ANY CHANCE YOU... WOULD HELP ME *AGAIN?*

GEE--I DON'T KNOW, SUNOCO-- I'VE GOT STRICT ORDERS...

AWW, BUT WHAT THE HECK, FRIENDS IS FRIENDS...

THANKS, IPANA-- LET ME GET MAIA. WE'RE TRYING TO FIND OUR *CHILD...*

I-I THINK I'M ALL RIGHT... HAVE WE BEEN CAPTURED?

THIS IS AN OLD *FRIEND* OF MINE, MAIA.

HE'S GOING TO HELP US *OUT* OF THIS...

WAIT A SECOND!

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT A KID?

I SAID I'D GIVE *YOU* A HAND, SUNOCO, BUT *NO WAY* ARE ANY *CROSSBREEDS* WALKIN' OUT OF HERE!

I SPENT THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF MY LIFE, WADIN' THROUGH HELL AND BACK TO KEEP OUR GENE POOL *SAFE.* AND I AIN'T ABOUT TO DO *ANYTHING* TO *JEOPARDIZE* THAT!

HAND IT OVER!

THEN YOU MIGHT AS WELL PUT A BULLET IN MY BRAIN, PAN, RIGHT NOW, 'CAUSE YOU AIN'T GETTIN' THAT KID!

NO, SUNOCO! IT'S ALL RIGHT.

IF YOU LET US GO, YOU CAN HAVE THE CHILD...

HUH?

DEAL. GO GET IT...

HOW MANY TIMES HAD I FANTASIZED THIS MOMENT?

AND HOW OFTEN HAD I PURGED IT FROM MY MIND IN SPASMS OF GUILT AND SELF-LOATHING?

UNTIL THERE IT WAS! AND IN MY INABILITY TO COPE I FOUND MYSELF THINKING ABOUT THE TRAIN AND ALL THOSE RADIATION VICTIMS...

HERE--*TAKE IT!* DO WHAT YOU *WILL* WITH IT!

I'M SORRY... I'M SO SORRY...

AAAHH WUH...

AND YOU TRY TO TELL ME *THIS* ISN'T A CRIME AGAINST THE SPONSOR?

I SAY THAT IT'S *TOO MUCH* OF A CRIME TO GO *UNPUNISHED!*

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

YOU SON OF A BITCH! YOU SAID YOU'D LET US GO!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE HIS *FRIEND!*

THE FRIEND I HAD *DIED* THE NIGHT HE WAS SEDUCED BY *YOUR* STINKIN' MUSK, PLOO! ALL I'M DOIN'S MAKING IT *OFFICIAL!*

THIS IS CAPTAIN SCHLITZ--PATCH ME THROUGH TO INQUISITOR FIRESTONE'S SHIP-- TELL HIM WE'VE CAPTURED HIS NEPHEW...

...AND *FAMILY!*

IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE WE FOUND OURSELVES THE FOCUS OF ANOTHER ONE OF XEROX'S INQUISITIONS...

I HOPE YOU REALIZE THAT YOU ARE THE *LAST* OF YOUR KIND, SUNOCO...

THE GENE POLICE HAVE ALMOST *SOLVED* THIS PLOO PROBLEM! SOON IT WILL BE *IMPOSSIBLE* TO COMMIT SUCH CRIMES AS *INTERSPECIES COPULATION!* OUR HOLY WAR IS WON...

I THINK THE *SPONSOR* WILL BE PLEASED!

PLEASED?! THE SPONSOR YOU ADORE DOESN'T EVEN *EXIST!*

WHAT YOU'VE HAD US KOWTOWING TO ALL ALONG WERE ONLY ANCIENT *ENTERTAINMENT SHOWS*, THE MEANINGS OF WHICH YOU *TWISTED* TO YOUR OWN *MURDEROUS DESIRES!*

YOU *DARE* SPEAK TO *ME* OF CRIMINAL *DESIRE?* YOU WHOSE LOINS SPAWNED SUCH *ABOMINATION?*

YOU WHO HAVE HEAPED THE *ULTIMATE SHAME* ON THE FIRESTONE NAME?

NOW, LET THERE BE A *RECKONING!* COLONEL SCHLITZ--BRING ME MY NEPHEW'S WHELP...

I'M AFRAID ITS *DEAD*, SIR... THE MEDICS SAY FROM ACUTE *RADIATION SICKNESS!*

SO, SUNOCO--YOU ARE *SPARED* THE AGONY OF WATCHING ME SLOWLY TORTURE YOUR LITTLE PRIZE...

I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO *DOUBLE* MY EFFORTS ON ITS *MOTHER!*

AS XEROX'S UGLY WORDS SANK IN, SOME DEEP SECTION OF MY EMOTIONAL STRATA BROKE ASUNDER!

MY CHEST BEGAN TO PENDULATE WILDLY...

ARE MY IMPLEMENTS READY?

YES, SIR!

UNTIL, LIKE A GREAT ARCTIC ICE FLOE, THAT CAN NO LONGER BE HELD IN CHECK...

...MY HEART *OPENED!*

IT LET GO THE LIGHT!

AND THE CIRCUIT WAS MADE.

I HALF EXPECTED TO SEE OLD TOOBA'S GHOST DANCING A JIG!

BUT IT WASN'T TOOBA WHO ROSE UP OUT OF THE RENEWED WELL!

BY THE SPONSOR'S HOLY NAME! WHAT IS *THAT?*

IT'S SOME KIND OF *DEMON!*

KILL IT!

DON'T SHOOT!

I BRING WORD FROM THE *SPONSOR!*

AND HAS *HE* GOT NEWS FOR *YOU!*

HELLO, EPSILON BOOTIS! THIS IS AN *HISTORIC OCCASION--* THE *FIRST* DIRECT COMMUNICATION FROM THE HOME PLANET *EARTH..* OR *AS YOU* CALL US-- THE *SPONSOR!*

NOW WE UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE BEEN UNDER THE IMPRESSION WE WERE *ALREADY* TRANSMITTING TO YOU. WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN RECEIVING WERE MERELY MEANINGLESS BROADCAST SIGNALS THAT HAVE TAKEN WELL OVER THREE CENTURIES TO REACH YOU...

PROOF OF THIS IS THAT YOU PROBABLY STOPPED RECEIVING THESE SIGNALS A FEW YEARS AGO-- THIS WAS DUE TO SUPERNOVA ACTIVITY IN YOUR SECTOR...

FORTUNATELY WE'VE FOUND A *NEW* INSTANTANEOUS METHOD OF TRANSMITTING TO YOU VIA THE *UNIFIED FIELD!*

AND THIS MEANS WE'RE ENTERING A *NEW ERA* FOR BOTH OF OUR CULTURES!

NOW WE'VE HAD WORD THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT YOU HAVE BEEN SUBJECTING THE NATIVE POPULATION TO HEAVY *REPRESSION* AND EVEN *GENOCIDE*...

IT IS *EXTREMELY* IMPORTANT THAT THIS *STOPS IMMEDIATELY* PURSUANT TO OUR COLONIAL CODE FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE THEY'VE HAD ME ON CALL FOR *YEARS* JUST HOPING YOU'D FIGURE OUT HOW TO RECHARGE THE FIELD...

THANK GOD YOU *FINALLY* DID IT!

RIMBAUD! AM I GLAD TO SEE *YOU!*

I WAS HOPING TO RUN INTO YOU, TOO, HI-TEST! GEE-- I LIKE THE HAIR!

HMMPH!

WE'LL HAVE MORE OPERATIVES MAKING THE JUMP TO YOU AS SOON AS WE CAN FIND PEOPLE *CAPABLE* OF IT. THERE WILL THEN BE A BOARD OF INQUIRY TO SEE ABOUT *REPARATIONS* TO THE PLOO FOR ANY *CRIMES* COMMITTED AGAINST THEM!

CRIMES?

I MUST GO TO EARTH AND SPEAK *DIRECTLY* TO THE SPONSOR-- EVERYTHING CAN BE *EXPLAINED!*

THIS UNIFIED FIELD WILL TAKE ME TO *EARTH...?*

I DON'T KNOW-- IT TAKES A SPECIAL *TALENT*--ITS VERY HARD ON THE *EMOTIONS!*

YOUNG LADY-- NEED I *REMIND* YOU THAT I AM THE GRAND INQUISITOR OF EPSILON BOOTIS? AND I HAVE SPENT MY ENTIRE *LIFE* IN CONTEMPLATION OF THE SPONSOR'S SACRED WORD...

IF *ANYONE* HAS THIS TALENT-- I DO!

I'M COMING, MOST HOLY SPONSOR!

AAAAA

KUUUP

EGH!

SPUT!

WAIT!

I *TRIED* TO TELL HIM... WE FOUND OUT THE *HARD* WAY THAT ANYONE WHO ATTEMPTS THE JUMP *WITHOUT* THE TALENT...

...ENDS UP *DEAD*-- VICTIM OF A *MASSIVE HEART ATTACK!*

WAIT, MAIA-- WHERE ARE YOU *GOING?*

THERE IS SOMEONE *ELSE...*

ANOTHER? MY GOD, MAIA-- HOW MANY ARE THERE?

WHY IS IT EVERY TIME I THINK I'VE *WON* YOU, YOU TURN AND *RUN AWAY!?*

CAN'T YOU SEE HOW MUCH I *NEED* YOU?

I'M NOT BLIND-- I'M SURE YOUR EARTHWOMAN WILL SATISFY ALL YOUR NEEDS!

LET GO OF ME!!

DON'T LET HER GET TO YOU, HI-TEST...

I MEAN, YOU'VE GOT *OPTIONS*, RIGHT?

OPTIONS? --YOU MEAN *US?* RIMBAUD... I *DO*... *CARE* FOR YOU, BUT... BUT I HAVE TO TELL YOU...

...IT CAN NEVER BE EVEN CLOSE TO WHAT I FEEL FOR THAT WOMAN...

NEVER.

I UNDERSTAND, KID-- I WASN'T PROPOSING *MARRIAGE*, BUT YOU'VE GOT A SPECIAL TALENT-- ONE THAT'S IN REAL *DEMAND* RIGHT NOW.

THE SCIENTISTS ARE SAYING THAT THE UNIFIED FIELD EXTENDS THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY, AND PERHAPS *BEYOND*...

THEY NEED PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND I TO SEE JUST HOW FAR IT *DOES* EXTEND...

SO, WHY NOT COME ON BACK TO EARTH WITH ME? WHO KNOWS...

WE MIGHT END UP TOURING THE GALAXY TOGETHER!

MY HEART JUST WOULDN'T BE IN IT, RIMBAUD..

I'M SORRY...

WELL, DON'T EXPECT ME TO *CRAWL!* I MEAN, HEY-- NO SWEAT OFF *RIMBAUD'S* BUNS!

I'VE GOT MY *OWN* LIFE TO LIVE... ART TO CREATE... POETRY TO WRITE...

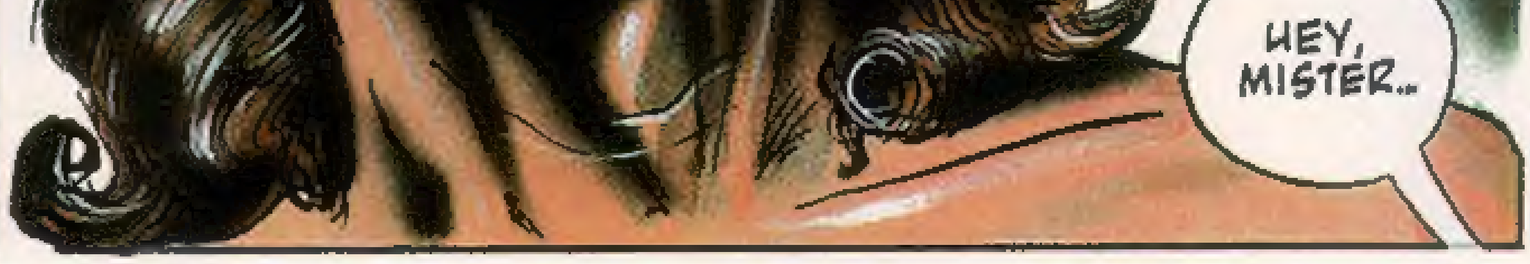
I'LL MAKE OUT JUST *FINE* WITHOUT *YOU!*

BUT, HI-TEST?

YOU KNOW, IF YOU EVER *DO* CHANGE YOUR MIND...?

I'LL SEE YOU IN YOUR DREAMS!

FREAKS
CLOWN
MAKE UP


HEY, MISTER...

MY NAME IS SUNNY... SUNNY FIRESTONE!

ARE YOU MY DADDY?

YES, SUNNY...HE IS YOUR DADDY... BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW IT...

YOU SEE, WE HAD TO DECEIVE HIM ABOUT YOU... FIRST WITH OUR WORDS, AND THEN WITH THAT POOR DYING BABY...

IT SEEMED LIKE THE RIGHT THING TO DO AT THE TIME...

I ONLY HOPE HE CAN FIND IT IN HIS HEART TO FORGIVE US...

I THINK IT WAS THEN I REALIZED I HAD A DESTINY TO FULFILL, NOT A FATE TO SUFFER...

'82-83 RICK VEITCH